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## AFRICA

**Italy in North Africa.** An Account of the Tripoli Enterprise. By W. K. McClure. xi and 328 pp. Maps, ills., index. J. C. Winston Com., Philadelphia, 1913. \$2.50. 9 x 6.

A description of the occupation by Italy of Tripoli, and its outlying littoral and hinterland, written by an Englishman and based upon personal investigation on the spot, and upon the inspection of the official military reports treating of the operations of the Italian army. Three topographical sketch-maps of the Italian engineers give a good idea of the region occupied and conquered by Italy. The view adopted is wholly favorable to Italian diplomacy, and military and naval operations. The account of the work done by the Italian air-craft is particularly worthy of note. The absence of a detailed account of the writer's personal experience is as unusual as it is commendable. The relations of Italy to the other great European powers are described and Britons are advised that continual hostile criticism will destroy Italian good-feeling towards England in the future. It is a commendable example of historical writing.

DAVID H. BUEL.

**Administration in Tropical Africa.** By Capt. C. H. Stigand. viii and 302 pp. Index. Constable & Co., London, 1914. 10s. 6d. 9 x 6.

One of the most suggestive and helpful books yet written in relation to the task of bringing the benefits of good government and civilization to the barbarous tribes of tropical Africa. It is a practical work written by a British official who up to this time has been best known by his books on hunting and game in Africa. As a servant of the British Administration, however, he dealt with very different matters; and he, as well as many others in the same line of service, had to work out his own problems with regard, first, to establishing law and order in his district and then to its material development.

So he tells of the local conditions that affect Tropical Africa, a most illuminating chapter; of the selection of a station site, the available materials for building, the development of agriculture, its products, transportation, native labor, industries, natural products, forestry, administrative work, armed forces, etc.; and he discusses many other topics that have to do with the upbuilding of the great areas which the European powers now possess in barbarous Africa. This is one of the first books written on practical methods of development—methods evolved by actual experience. All who are seriously interested in Tropical Africa should read this book.

**With the Tin Gods.** [A Woman's Adventures in Northern Nigeria]. By Mrs. Horace Tremlett. x and 308 pp. Ills. John Lane Co., New York, 1915. \$3.50. 9 x 6.

A book worth reading, not because the author knew anything of Africa before her husband took her there, but for the reason that she has keen perceptions and literary gift. Anyone competent to judge will say that she gives vivid and true impressions of what she saw. Her journey was from Lagos to the Niger and into Nigeria as far as the Bauchi Highlands, the tin field that the British are developing. Mrs. Tremlett sketches the life of whites and blacks, describes the effects of their environment upon them, sharply differentiates between the Hausa, the Fula and the common black tribes and all her pen pictures abound with humor and discernment.

## ASIA

**The Holy Land of the Hindus.** With seven letters on religious problems. By the Rev. Robert L. Lacey. 246 pp. Map, ills. R. Scott, London, 1913. 3s. 6d. 8 x 5½.

A reprint in book form of a series of articles previously published in missionary periodicals, showing Baptist Christianity face to face with Hinduism and Buddhism. The "Holy Land" is washed by the waters of the Bay

of Bengal and lies between the 19th and 22d parallels, and the 83d and 87th meridians. It is called Orissa and is a division of Bengal. The book relates to the experiences of a Baptist missionary and his wife in their work of converting the Hindus to the teachings of evangelical Christianity. Hinduism, or the worship of Jagenath [Jagannath], "The Lord of the World," the ninth incarnation of Vishnu, is described as the grossest form of idolatry, marred by shocking indecency, yet embraced by fervent multitudes, who beggar themselves to make contributions of money and property to the priests. Buddhism in Burma is viewed with sympathy, and said to be far different from the centralized hierarchical Buddhism of Tibet.

DAVID H. BUEL.

**Indien.** Ceylon, Vorderindien, Birma, die Malayische Halbinsel, Siam, Java. Handbuch für Reisende. Von Karl Baedeker. lxxiv and 358 pp. Maps, index. K. Baedeker, Leipzig, 1914. Mk. 20.  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ .

Those of us who have traveled Europe under Baedeker's skilful guidance have eagerly wished for the same practical helps when our journeys have taken us into the Far East. Here at last is a Baedeker for the most-traveled part of the Orient.

In 74 pages the introduction gives practical advice on travel in India, a working vocabulary in Hindustani, and a treatise on Indian religion, culture, art, and literature. The next 14 pages treat the route from Europe to India. Baedeker's estimate of the importance to the traveler of the various places described is suggested by the number of pages devoted to each. Ceylon has 52, India 186, Burma 28, Malay Peninsula 16, Siam 8, and Java 37.

The book sustains Baedeker usefulness, authority and up-to-dateness. Only rarely can its judgment be questioned, as, for instance, in giving special commendation (double star) to Galle Face Road in Colombo, and not to the view from Tiger Hill, Darjeeling, that embraces one of nature's noblest panoramas, including Mt. Everest, and again in almost ignoring the Malabar coastal region, notwithstanding its rare picturesqueness. Architecture would seem to receive more space than its due. Geographers would like to have the attention of travelers called more to features and problems of their particular interest, especially in a country where the influences of climate, relief and soil on plants and people are so striking. The dozen sketches of tropical vegetation on pp. 17-19 and the accompanying paragraphs are steps in the right direction.

The 56 unusually excellent maps make the book of high value to geographers for the reference library. With them the traveler has no excuse for not knowing exactly where he is from the time he leaves the Mediterranean until he climbs Tengger in Eastern Java.

SUMNER W. CUSHING.

### **A German Scholar in the East. Travel Scenes and Reflections.**

By H. Hackmann. Translated by D. Rommel. xi and 223 pp. Ills. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., Ltd., London, 1914.  $9 \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ .

This English condensation of the "Welt des Ostens" by the Professor of the History of Religions, in the University of Amsterdam, is chiefly valuable for its expert valuation of the present-day status of Oriental religions. Buddhism is considered to have shot its bolt and to be really disintegrating. Profoundly modified by national and racial traits, in Mongolia, Japan, China, and Siam, it has been ousted from its birthplace in India by Hinduism. Taoism is better thought of, with its creed of self-abasement, self-denial, and actual practice of the simple life. Old Japanese Shintoism is regarded as really dead, while the new national Shintoism of Nippon is thought to be vital, although merely secular. The scenes where Confucius was born, lived and died, and their neglect, are described with a sad regret; but while the immense influence of Confucius on China is conceded, no estimate of the present position or future prospects of Confucianism in China is given. It is granted that Japan has adopted, and that China is adopting Western learning, culture, and civilization, minus Christianity. It is allowed that it is well-nigh impossible for Oriental and Occidental to enter into each other's view-point, and a strict and impartial